

OPINION 1691

***Polygyra* Say, 1818 (Mollusca, Gastropoda): *Polygyra septemvolva* Say, 1818 designated as the type species, and POLYGYRIDAE Pilsbry, 1895 given precedence over MESODONTIDAE Tryon, 1866**

Ruling

- (1) Under the plenary powers:
 - (a) all fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Polygyra* Say, 1818 prior to the designation by Herrmannsen (1847) of *Polygyra septemvolva* Say, 1818 are hereby set aside;
 - (b) POLYGYRIDAE Pilsbry, 1895 and other family-group names based on *Polygyra* Say, 1818 are hereby given precedence over MESODONTIDAE Tryon, 1866 and other family-group names based on *Mesodon* Férussac, 1821 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon.
- (2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Polygyra* Say, 1818 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Herrmannsen (1847) *Polygyra septemvolva* Say, 1818, as ruled in (1)(a) above;
 - (b) *Mesodon* Férussac, 1821 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Helix thyroidus* Say, 1817.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *septemvolva* Say, 1818, as published in the binomen *Polygyra septemvolva* (specific name of the type species of *Polygyra* Say, 1818);
 - (b) *thyroidus* Say, 1817, as published in the binomen *Helix thyroidus* (specific name of the type species of *Mesodon* Férussac, 1821).
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology:
 - (a) POLYGYRIDAE Pilsbry, 1895 (type genus *Polygyra* Say, 1818) with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Polygyra* are to be given precedence over MESODONTIDAE Tryon, 1866 (type genus *Mesodon* Férussac, 1821) and other family-group names based on *Mesodon* whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon;
 - (b) MESODONTIDAE Tryon, 1866 (type genus *Mesodon* Férussac, 1821) with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Mesodon* are not to be given priority over POLYGYRIDAE Pilsbry, 1895 and other family-group names based on *Polygyra* Say, 1818 whenever their type genera are placed in the same family-group taxon.

History of Case 2642

An application for the conservation of the family-group name POLYGYRIDAE Pilsbry, 1895 by giving it precedence over MESODONTIDAE Tryon, 1866 was received from Dr K.C. Emberton (*Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.*) on 8 February 1988. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 46: 94–96 (June 1989). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

A comment from Drs G. Rosenberg (*Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.*) & K.C. Emberton, published in BZN 47: 204–205 (September

1990), noted that the generic name *Mesodon* was first published by Férussac (1821) in synonymy, and that authorship of the name is correctly ascribed to Férussac (1821) (Article 50g of the Code, cf. paras. 1 and 8 of the application).

The application received the necessary two-thirds majority for approval when voted on by the Commission. However, Mr David Heppell, voting in favour, pointed out on his voting paper that the type species of the type genus *Polygyra* Say, 1818 was *P. auriculata* Say, 1818 by Gray's (November 1847) designation, and not *P. septemvolva* Say, 1818 as stated in the application. He also noted that the correct date for the publication of the name POLYGYRIDAE is 1895 (not 1894 as previously stated). A further proposal (BZN 48: 141–142; June 1991) sought to set aside Gray's designation in favour of the accepted type species for *Polygyra*, *P. septemvolva* Say, 1818, designated by Herrmannsen (December 1847) (see BZN 46: 95). Approval of this further proposal has allowed the ruling on the case to be completed and a combined Opinion to be published.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 December 1990 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 46: 95, with the amendment to the authorship (Férussac, 1821) of the name *Mesodon* noted above. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 1991 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 26: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Mroczkowski, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 1: Thompson.

Dupuis abstained.

On 1 March 1992 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposal published in BZN 48: 142. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 1992 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 29: Bayer, Bock, Bouchet, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Dupuis, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Štys, Thompson, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — none.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Mesodon Férussac, 1821, *Tableaux systématiques des animaux mollusques... suivis d'un prodrome général...*, part 2, p. 37 (folio), p. 33 (quarto).

MESODONTIDAE Tryon, 1866, *American Journal of Conchology*, 2: 306.

Polygyra Say, 1818, *Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 1(10): 276.

POLYGYRIDAE Pilsbry, 1895, *Manual of Conchology*, series 2 (Pulmonata), vol. 9, p. xxxii.

septemvolva, *Polygyra*, Say, 1818, *Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 1(10): 278.

thyroidus, *Helix*, Say, 1817, *Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 1(6): 123.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Polygyra septemvolva* Say, 1818 as the type species of the nominal genus *Polygyra* Say, 1818:

Herrmannsen, A.N. 1847. *Indicus generum Malacozoorum primordia*, vol. 2, p. 317.